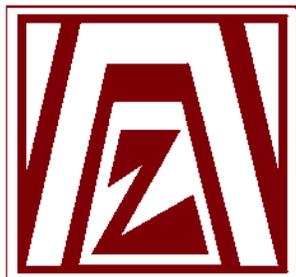


ZONTA



INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 12

**Zonta International
District 12
Mission Statement**

Zonta District 12's purpose is to build, develop, and maintain strong clubs through support, leadership, and communication in order to further the mission of Zonta International.

Zonta Resources

District 12

zontadistrict12.org

Zonta International

zonta.org
ZISVAW.org

United Nations

un.org
womenact.org
unifem.undp.org
saynotoviolence.org

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Outreach

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER, 2011

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE ...

Priorities Over the (Short) & Long Haul

It's that time of year when *everything* seems to be needing our attention.

If we are self-aware enough to say, "Wait a minute!"

If we can take a few minutes before we fall asleep at night (or somewhere else where one won't endanger herself or others ...), reflect upon our goals and what will make the most difference 'over the long haul'. Then, we can begin to prioritize & set things straight.



It's the same with our Zonta. There are sooo many things that we want or need to do. So, let us reflect upon our goals & priorities.

Remember the priorities Zontians told us in that Membership Survey back in April 2010?

They were:

- #1 Increase visibility,
- #2 Increase membership,
- #3 Share best practices in local service
- #4 (a 3-way tie)

- Ensure our leaders understand their roles & responsibilities/
- Promote Zonta's International Projects/
- Facilitate discussions of issues affecting professional women.

When I ask myself, 'what will make the most difference over the **long haul**?', I come up with pretty much the same list of priorities! *Alas ...* so far, our results concerning these priorities are a very 'mixed bag.'

Then I realize 2011-12 Zonta year is almost half over!! We have a very 'short haul' until May. So ... I urge you to join me for the coming 6 months in adding emphasis to **these priorities** throughout our District. Please keep them **centered** on your personal Zonta radar screen. I promise you, that's what I'm going to do!

Your Gov,
Kay Meyer

What's Going On In Your Area?

Area 1

by Jocelyn (Jo) Prang, Area 1 Director

Lots of fall activity is happening in Area 1 ... as Zontians are busy planning and raising funds the best way they know—by having FUN and working together.

The Zonta Club of the **BLACK HILLS** then held their 28th annual ZONTA EXPO on October 6, with Jane Hight McMurray as the speaker with the theme of "Navigating the Lipstick Jungle: Getting What You Want And Deserve in the Workplace". They had a great turnout, lots of booths, a fashion show, and a silent auction. Preliminary results show a profit of approximately \$25,000+ which will be given away to non-profit applicants that serve women and children in February. As if that wasn't enough, post-EXPO they held a rummage sale to help pay for website expenses/travel funds and the remaining items were given to the local homeless shelter. The Club says that although September and October were exhausting, fun was had by all, and they are looking to inducting some new members soon after the next membership social on November 9.

The Zonta Club of **BILLINGS** is now planning for their major fundraiser in February. It is their 15th annual TRIVIA NIGHT, and I have been invited! They are busy rounding up major sponsors, coming up with the questions, getting an MC (aka, Alec Trebec-type), and constructing an A/V program about Zonta, and, of course, collecting items for the ever-popular Silent Auction! They have so many returning teams, they have to work to squeeze in any new teams that want to take the challenge. Good luck to all!

The Zonta Club of **GLENDIVE** is gearing up for its Fall Arts & Crafts Bazaar November 11-12. The entire club participates appearing at 6 a.m. on both Fri and Sat. Whoa - dedication ladies! Sounds like they are having a bit of an "oil boom" there, as President Jenna McCormick states it will be hard to find a hotel room at this late date! This should bode well for their fundraising efforts and possible membership increase in the future!

The Zonta Club of **PIERRE-FORT PIERRE** is putting the final touches on their annual Fall Craft Show that was held last weekend. The money they make from this Show (and the Spring Craft Show) allows them to fund projects for several local service organizations and provide several scholarships for women. The Club will host the Area 1 Meeting in April in Pierre.

The Zonta Club of the **SOUTHERN BLACK HILLS** is finishing up their annual Calendar Planner Project. They sell ads so they can have it out by November (when everyone starts asking for it)! It gives the Club publicity and is considered Community service as they are 'free.' Their main focus this year is on membership! At an officer's retreat the following list was developed that is certainly worth sharing for the benefit of smaller clubs ... it's not HOW MUCH money you can raise, to the point of "burning out" your members, it's about joining together with like-minded women to support each other and the cause of advancing the status of women (at home and Internationally).

1. Cut back on number of projects as Club had become too much work for too few people. (Eliminated two big ones - "relief!")
2. Getting "back to the basics" with more 'girlfriend' time, enjoying each other through socials and other fun activities
3. Moving to one meeting a month (Board will still have a separate meeting)
4. Christmas silent auction/party: Going back to original format of a social for the Club (and former members) with some 'little' service or fundraising.
5. Conducting a membership drive at the 'Naked Winery' in October

The Zonta Club of **SPEARFISH** is busy planning the "Festival of Trees," which is their annual flagship fundraising event to be held December 1-3 at the Tretheway Pavilion in the Spearfish City Park. This year, they promise a completely revitalized and innovative format with multi-dimensional and non-traditional holiday auction items that elegantly reflect community-based and mission-focused commitment, while raising thousands of dollars that directly support the needs of children and women in the Spearfish community. Several thousand people enjoy this annual holiday event that creatively exhibits the sponsors' generosity as guests wander amongst uniquely decorated items during public viewing opportunities, school tours and special events. Needless to say, this is a don't want to miss event during the Christmas season.

The Zonta Club of the **STURGIS AREA** is wrapping up their annual Painted Pumpkin sales. [I was lucky enough to participate this year! It's amazingly easy, fun; and we had good discussions, food, and laughter. Everything I love about Zonta! Note the photos on the next page!] They then will be busy planning their annual Holiday Open-House Food Service. The



(Continued on page 3)

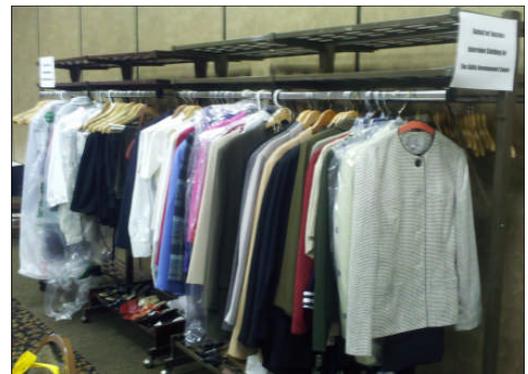
(Continued from page 2)

Club's main focus this year as far as service is the Women's Crisis Shelter in Sturgis. The Shelter lost a lot of funding so they are hoping to give them additional assistance (more than in past years). They are anticipating having a membership drive meeting in December to get new half-year members. They are targeting educators since they now meet in the evening.



Finally, on September 23-25, the **District 12 Conference** was held in Rapid City, hosted by Area 1 Clubs. Every Club had delegates in attendance, except Gillette who unfortunately has disbanded. District Conference planning co-chairs from the Zonta Club of the Black Hills, Kyle Mattison Blada and Jan Kirch, headed up a terrific committee to see to every detail of the Conference. Kathleen Douglass from Brampton-Caledon, CANADA, our International Representative joined us, and we had plenty of opportunity to visit with her and show her our enthusiasm for Zonta. [Note the photo of clothing collected.]

For all those hardworking Area 1 Zontians out there, THANK YOU on behalf of women and children everywhere! YOU ARE STELLAR examples of "giving back" to your communities and to the world! Continue with your projects and be assured you are all appreciated!



Area 2

by Mary K. Walker, Area 2 Director

The Clubs in Area 2 have been busy with fundraising and membership recruitment.

Cheyenne: The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence will be observed by the club with a display of the Silent Witness full size silhouettes of victims of gender violence in Wyoming. The display will be set up in the Laramie County Library and continued throughout the 16 days. Proclamations are also prepared for the mayor and governor to sign. Cheyenne is also working on membership recruitment and several service projects. For the third time this year club members will be providing a dinner to the Connections Corner program. On December 1 the Club will celebrate a "ZI Dine-In" fundraiser dinner with a potluck supper and donations collected.



Converse County: Membership recruitment has been a focus in Douglas, WY. The club is also working on their role for advocacy and they are inviting the Director of the Coalition Against Family Violence to speak with them. The club participated in the Holiday Open House and Market Fair in November with baked goods to sell (as well as getting the Zonta name "out there"). Douglas continues to assist at Jubilee House which is a halfway house for paroled women inmates as they are reintroduced to society. The club donates essential clothes and personal items. Douglas continues to have the "Teacher's Pet Project" Scholarship Awards and the recipients will be meeting with them soon for an update on an anti-bullying campaign.

Fort Collins: Lunch N Learn events for women re-entering the workforce continue to be successful. Held once a month at Front Range Community College, there are various topics. The Club also sponsors two young girls in India with items needed to attend school. They are in the 5th year of a 10 year commitment to this project. Fort Collins members volunteer to sort clothing and other items for the ABLE Women's Closet for women re-entering the workforce. Fort Collins held a ZEP kickoff event on November 9 at the Front Range Community College Single Parent Program for the ZEP mentoring program. Booths for community resource organizations were set up and the Zonta Club Arlene Davy Scholarship was announced.

Laramie: The annual Fashion Show was a big success, sold out as usual. Governor Kay Meyer attended as well as several members of the Cheyenne Club. An extra long runway was used this year so that everyone could see the fashions. The models were from some of the club's service project recipients such as "Suited for Success"

Greeley: Although the Club is not officially chartered, a core group of interested pre-members continue to meet monthly to plan activities and recruit more members. Governor Kay Meyer attended the November meeting and discussed the ZI projects. A film about the Rwanda project was shown. The co-chairs of this effort are Kathy Swafford and Marcie Woolworth of the Fort Collins club and they have been working very hard on this effort. Some of the prospective members have investigated the needs for local service projects and they are preparing a "Financial 101" program to offer to those who need assistance in organizing their personal finances. Lt. Governor Sheila Davis discussed what will be necessary to charter the club and a draft timeline of events.

Area 2 Meeting: All District 12 Zontians and particularly the Area 2 club members are invited to the April 14, 2012, Area 2 Meeting in Fort Collins. A motivational speaker will present some ideas, and we are starting the event with a "Friday the 13th" shopping event at Centerra followed by a group dinner. Stay tuned for more details!

Area 3

by Marcella L. (Marcy) O'Toole, Area 3 Director

Area 3 has the unique benefit of proximity for all Clubs. We have face to face Presidents' meetings every other month that include sharing of events and best practices, as well as getting to know each other. Highlights of upcoming events include:

Zonta Sparklers: Area 3 sells the iron-on Zonta Sparklers, and the proceeds are used to assist in sending a "first timer" to District Conference. Two first timers from Douglas County attended the Conference in Rapid City. They are hooked! We've expanded to send first timers to the Area 3 Meeting and the Governor's Seminar in 2012.

Area 3 Service Event: In lieu of the formalized Amelia Earhart event in January, Area 3 will be providing an opportunity for members to get to know one another while providing a hand up at Project C.U.R.E. Project C.U.R.E's mission is to identify, solicit, collect, sort and deliver medical supplies and services to the world. The event will consist of two sort times with lunch, and is on Saturday, January 14, 2012. Look for upcoming information to sign up electronically. The cost is FREE. Come join us for this unique Zonta appreciation event while helping others!

Day at the Capitol: Back due to popular demand! Alice Borodkin is coordinating with the help of each Area 3 Club another Day at the Capitol. The event will be held on January 17, 2012.

In addition to all the work at the Area level, the Clubs are busy with their individual activities. Some highlights follow:

Boulder County: Just completed another successful Sugar Plum Fair and donated \$1000 to the Beth Haynes Project.

Denver: Denver will be providing \$27K in grants in February, and the Club voted to totally fund an Amelia Earhart Fellowship of \$10,000! In addition, the Annual Film event will be the first week in March, coinciding with International Women's Day. Denver won the National Philanthropic Award for the Denver area, and will receive the award next week!

Denver II: Denver II was the winner of the coveted District 12 Service Award!! Holiday season is the busy time for Denver II, with the large, annual fundraiser: the sales of holiday greenery, poinsettias, nuts and candy. In addition to its fundraising activities, Denver II's service projects will be two Adopt a Family (Safehouse and Parent Pathways), the purchase of undergarments for Empowerment, and Adopting a Cottage at Excelsior. Lastly, to improve its image and public relations, Denver II is totally revamping its Website.

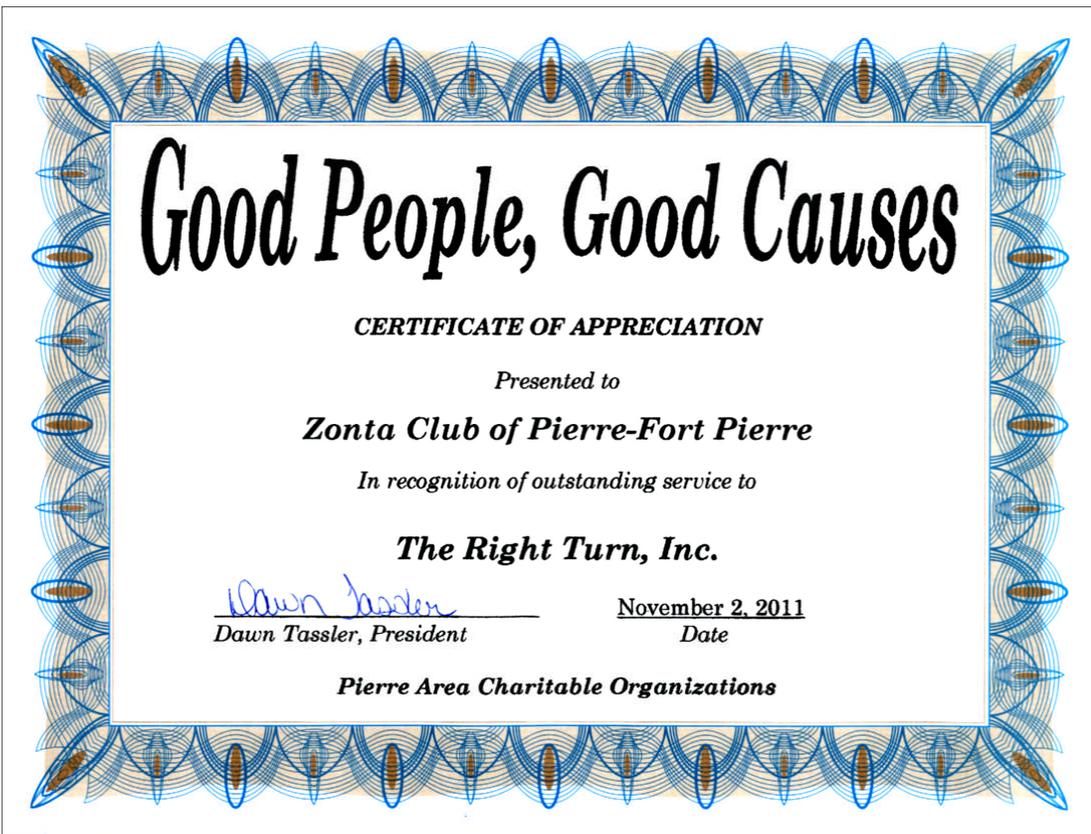
Douglas County: Douglas County membership strategies coupled with excellent Public Relations is paying off! Starting with a membership number of 15, Douglas County is now at 20! The club was also the winner of the District 12 largest % increase in membership for clubs under 40, which was awarded at the District Conference in Rapid City. The club will be hosting the Area 3 meeting on Saturday, March 31, 2012 while planning for their annual Trivia Event in April! Way to Go Douglas County!

Foothills of Boulder County: Held a "Zappy Hour" to encourage/recruit new members into Zonta. One of the attending guests will be joining! Foothills is also planning their "Zing for Zonta" event, which will be held January 29, 2012.

Lakewood / Golden: Lakewood / Golden will be stuffing "grub bags" for Sofa Surfers, homeless teens in Jefferson County that are still going to school. A key focus also is membership with the goal to have 15 members by June, 2012. Lakewood/Golden has professionalized its membership material and is actively recruiting!



Members of the Zonta Club of Denver in front of the Women's Wall at the Denver Convention Center. In 1991, at a cost of \$100,000, ZCD made a gift of this wall to the City of Denver, highlighting Colorado's Outstanding Women, past and present.



The Zonta Club of Pierre-Fort Pierre was recognized for their continued work on the Zonta Closet (in existence for over ten years) at The Right Turn, Inc. Gently-used wardrobe items suitable for job interviews and employment are donated to the students as they enter the workforce following their completion of the GED program and/or other educational programs.

Bravo!

Zonta Club of Denver Recognized as Outstanding Service Organization by National Philanthropy Day® in Colorado

The Zonta Club of Denver has been recognized with a 2011 National Philanthropy Day® award for demonstrating outstanding commitment through financial support and the encouragement and motivation of others to take leadership roles in philanthropy and community involvement. The Club was nominated by The Delores Project in recognition of financial support provided by the Zonta Club of Denver Foundation, many hours of volunteer service, and in-kind contributions made by club members to Delores, as well as the club's contributions to many other community organizations over the years.

National Philanthropy Day® is the special day set aside to recognize and pay tribute to the great contributions that philanthropy—and those people active in the philanthropic community—have made to our lives, our communities and our world. Awards are given in several categories, and ZCD is this year's service organization honoree.

National Philanthropy Day® in Colorado is made possible by a partnership of host organizations from several nonprofit professional and community organizations, including the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce Leadership Foundation and Serve Colorado: the Governor's Commission on Community Service. The award will be presented at the annual luncheon to be held on **November 18, 2011**, at the Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center. The event will recognize individuals, organizations, foundations, and businesses for exceptional and impactful philanthropic and volunteer contributions in Colorado.

Zonta Club of Denver was chartered in 1927 and as a chapter of Zonta International, is united with more than 31,000 executives in business and the professions in over 1,200 clubs in 65 countries to improve the quality of life for women and children worldwide. Zonta Club of Denver provides hands-on service and funding each year to local organizations serving women in metro-area communities. For more information about the Zonta Club of Denver and its opportunities, visit www.zonta-denver.org.

National Philanthropy Day is the special day set aside to recognize and pay tribute to the great contributions that philanthropy—and those people active in the philanthropic community—have made. Celebrations are held annually in many states across the nation. Please visit their website www.npdcolorado.org for additional information.

The Delores Project was founded in 2000. The mission of the Delores Project is to provide safe, comfortable overnight shelter and services to unaccompanied adult women who are homeless and have limited resources. The model of service is one of hospitality, respect, and regard for the dignity of each guest. In 2009, 515 individual women found shelter and support at The Delores Project. For additional information about The Delores Project and the services they provide, please visit www.thedeloresproject.org.

Since its inception, **Zonta Club of Denver** has donated over \$2,500,000 and its members have given hundreds of thousands of volunteer service hours to community projects aimed at improving at-risk women's opportunities. Additionally, various scholarships are awarded to students enrolled in accredited educational institutions in the Denver Metro area.

The **National Philanthropy Day** luncheon will honor individuals, organizations, foundations, businesses and corporations for exceptional and impactful philanthropic and volunteer contributions in Colorado. The 2011 event will bring an estimated 1,000 people together to recognize the accomplishments of award recipients. "*We give to others not out of a sense of obligation but out of a sense of sincere appreciation for what our community has given us,*" Frank M. Hubbard, Philanthropist, quoted on the National Philanthropy Day® Colorado website. Registration for Colorado's 2011 celebration is now open through Black-Tie Colorado. Registration, Luncheon and Program: 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center, 650 15th St., Denver 80202.

According to the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative's 2009 Point-In-Time study 1,606 single women are homeless on any given night in Denver. Each night **The Delores Project** has 50 shelter beds available and an additional 10-15 overflow cots to accommodate women in emergency circumstances. These women have often recently been evicted, released from prison or a hospital, or sometimes become unexpectedly stranded in Denver. Regardless of the reason, The Delores Project exists to keep women safe at night; in the winter months and through other extreme circumstances.



Congratulations!

Area 4

by *Laura Stamp*, Area 4 Director

Pikes Peak Area: The Pikes Peak Area Club is modernizing their newsletter to have a new format, live links, and a public forum for blasting to community members. Their LAA committee hosted Zontian and former Colorado Legislator, Alice Borodkin, for a program on how bills become laws. Planning is well underway for the 6th Glass Slipper Ball on January 28, 2012. Planning is also underway for the 2nd annual International Women's Day Event on March 8, 2012. The Pikes Peak Area Club is also over half way through the completion of their long-range implementation plan to shift their main service focus to education for women and girls.

Prowers County: Unavailable.

Royal Gorge: The Royal Gorge Club just finished their Artful Women Exhibition. They had over 80 wonderful pieces of women's artwork. The judges, from Colorado Springs, presented over \$1300 in awards to women artists. They announced their scholarship winner and presented her with \$1000 at the show opening. They partnered with the local CASA organization and showed local elementary school children's artwork reflecting a coffee label contest. On December 4 they are having a Holiday Home Tour fundraiser and they will be having a float in the Parade of Lights the night before to promote the tour and the Club.

D12 Image Design (including Pin Design Contest)

At the Board meeting following the District 12 Conference, ZI Board Liaison Kathleen Douglass talked further about our District branding and image. So ... development of the D12 Image Design was assigned to a new ID Team: Janet Bergin (Chair), Diane Twining, Susie Nulty, Michelle Ammerman, and Kristen O'Toole. This team will be developing some very basic parameters to guide D12's (including clubs) global 'look'. We will follow the ZI direction/guidelines and help in the development of club websites, business cards, and ... a new D12 Pin.

[Help us create buzz in Torino with our cool Pins!]

It's fun! It's easy!

Here are the steps—

1. Design a pin
2. Submit the design(s) to the D12 Design Jury*
3. Win a Prize

Deadline is April 21 (Date of the last 2012 Area Meeting!)

The winning design will have 'Zonta D12' on it somewhere, be classy, capture the ID & 'character' of District 12, and be producible in a standard (1" diameter) size.

The creator of the winning design will become rich and famous and be awarded 50 of the finished product.

* The D12 ID Team will be the jury. If you wish to send in your design now, please send it to Governor Kay Meyer

kay@meyergould.net and she will forward it when the team gets organized.



YWPA Deadline Fast Approaching

Its time to start promoting the YWPA Award. Our District 12 goal is to have applicants from every Club in the district. Please help us in reaching the goal.

One scholarship committee member suggested approaching service clubs such as 4-H, Girl Scouts or the Boys and Girls Clubs, as well as, the local high schools as these may bring you more applicants. The application deadline for clubs to get their recipients to D12 is April 1, 2012—just 5 short months away. The informational handout from the D12 Conference is available for download on zontadistrict12.org under the What's New section, roundtable handouts.

If you have any questions, please e-mail Janet Bergin at president@zontaroyalgorge.org.

Why the Focus on Membership?



Why do I sit here day after day counting the number of members in each District 12 club, instead of sitting here day after day counting the pennies in my piggy bank? Why do I spend time posting membership tips and strategies on the D12 OMC Chair Facebook page instead of posting glowing information about myself on my personal Facebook page? Why do I write membership articles for the *Outreach* instead of writing my memoirs? *Because ... increasing membership was the second highest priority identified in the surveys done at the 2010 Area meetings!* (See Kay's *Outreach* article this month.)

It's also my job as Organization, Membership, and Classification chair to focus on membership; however I don't think I would be as zealous about it if our district's members did not think it was a priority. As I mentioned in the August *Outreach*, Zonta International also believes membership is "the most important issue for our organization."

To keep the magnifying glass on membership, I am in monthly contact with club membership chairs and club presidents regarding each club's membership count and membership goal for the biennium. The Vice Area Directors and I also have a monthly conference call to discuss membership issues and concerns. As a result of the many recruiting and retention efforts, a majority of clubs plan to meet their biennium membership goal. I'm very appreciative of all the efforts in this regard. Maybe I'll spend a little more time bird watching instead of membership -ount watching!

Take care and have a great Thanksgiving!

Sheila Davis

Lt. Governor, OMC Chair

NON-CASH IDEAS TO HELP THE ZI FOUNDATION

Seems like I'm always asking for money for the Zonta International Foundation. Many of us are stretched and really can't give a cash donation.

With Christmas just around the corner—you didn't realize that—a way to help out your Zonta International Foundation is to use the site www.goodsearch.com which allows you to shop at your favorite store such as Coldwater Creek, Lands End, Target, Home Depot and have 1-3 %, typically, go to the charity of your choice. At goodsearch.com, enter Zonta International Foundation as your recipient. Then you go from their site to the website where you want to make a purchase. Goodsearch.com is also a good place for coupons. Look on the website for: GoodCoupons.

In my family, and others that I have talked to, we don't give gifts to adults at Christmas. Rather, the money that we don't spend on adults would be redirected to a favorite charity. What better one than the ZI Foundation.

Also, there now is a ZIF credit card that you can apply for. Go to the ZI website and search for – credit card. ZIF has partnered with Capital One. Just use our custom credit card and valuable cash donations for every purchase you make will be donated to our organization. Plus, we'll get a \$50 bonus donation when you make your first purchase. The card comes with a competitive rate, so sharing your passion—and your support—is easy and automatic. Apply today!

Happy Thanksgiving! and Merry Christmas!

Nikki Headlee

D12 Foundation Ambassador

THE 2011 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

Did you know that the movement to make the public aware of violence against women began in Latin America? In July of 1981, women in Bogota, Columbia systematically denounced gender violence—from domestic battery, to rape and sexual harassment, and to state violence, including torture and abuses of women political prisoners. November 25 was chosen as the official date for this movement in order to commemorate the lives of the three Mirabal sisters from the Dominican Republic. They were political activists opposed to Rafael Trujillo's dictatorship who were violently assassinated in 1960. The sisters, since referred to as the "Unforgettable Butterflies" (see Julia Alvarez' book "In the time of Butterflies") have become a worldwide symbol against victimization of women.



This day became an official UN observance on Nov. 3, 1999 when the General Assembly designated it the "International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women." The text of this resolution "expressed alarm that endemic violence against women was impeding women's opportunities to achieve legal, social, political and economic equality in society, and invites any agencies bodies, funds and programmes to organize on that day activities designed to raise public awareness of the problem of violence against women."

The "16 days of Activism Against Gender Violence" movement came out of the Global Campaign for Women's Human Rights. In June, 1991, the Centre for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL), along with the first Women's Global Institute on Women, Violence and Human Rights (a forum involving 23 women from 20 countries) called for a global campaign. The time period designated for the campaign begins on November 25 (International Day Against Violence Against Women) and encompasses World AIDS Day (Dec. 1), the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre (Dec. 6 when 14 women engineering students were gunned down for being feminists) and Human Rights Day (Dec. 10). This November, 2011, marks the 21st year of the campaign which has become an annual day in many communities across the globe to advocate for ending the scourge of violence against women. The CWGL encourages activists to use this 16-day period to raise awareness in student, local, national and regional communities by coordinating events such as workshops, festivals, etc. Check out cwgl.rutgers.edu/ for ideas on how to plan for activities to mark this important time period.

The theme of the CSW's (Commission on the Status of Women) 56th session is "The empowerment of rural women and their role in poverty and hunger eradication, development and current challenges." The UN Treaty, CEDAW specifically calls for States who have signed the Treaty "to guarantee to protect the human rights of rural women because of their roles in maintaining and caring for their families through agriculture." Read ZI President, Dianne Curtis' statement elsewhere in this newsletter to see the CSW's recommendations for ending deprivation and poverty.

— **SAY something — DO something —**

Zonta International urges every woman to sign up for the global call for action: "Say NO – UNITE to End Violence Against Women." If you haven't signed up already, go to saynotoviolence.org and add your name to the list of 2,116,167 people already supporting this action.

Another global movement right now is the "Get Cross" campaign which is identified by two arms crossed in front of your body. Rape has now become a weapon of war that makes war more dangerous for women than for soldiers. To "Get Cross," go to stoprapenow.org and see how you can help.

Our voices and our actions matter. Be a voice for ending violence against women. Tell your government to make it a priority. Plan an action in YOUR Zonta Club that lets YOUR community know where you stand on the subject. If you're a blogger, get online and let your voice be heard! Happy Thanksgiving Zontians—Remember, we will enjoy the holiday all the more for doing something to help our sisters around the world.

Mary Lou Edwards
District 12 UN Co-Chairman

Statement to ECOSOC (United Nations) CSW 56

Dear All,

As some of you may know, the UN Commission on the Status of Women's 56th session will take place next February-March. I have attached the statement that has been sent in support of rural women and their multitude of challenges and problems. I thought that you would all be interested in it. I know it seems early, but the deadline for such statements was today, November 14.

For Districts, please share with your clubs. For governors, ditto.

Warm regards,

Mary Ann Tarantula

Zonta International United Nations Committee Chairman

The theme of the Commission on the Status of Women's fifty-sixth session, "The empowerment of rural women and their role in poverty and hunger eradication, development and current challenges," is one that is particularly important in light of the many challenges facing rural women due to many factors including the current combined effects of world-wide economic instability and climate change, both of which exacerbate the poverty they are already experiencing.

In 1995, the Beijing Platform for Action emphasized that policies to improve the circumstances of women in rural areas needed to be formulated and, most importantly, those policies needed to be implemented. The areas of special interest at that time included rural women's access to resources such as land, credit, technology and decent employment. The need for rural women to be part of the decision-making processes was noted as was accessibility to education and health services.

Along with the Beijing Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) specifically calls for States to guarantee to protect the human rights of rural women and that they have equal access with men to land, markets, health care facilities, training, education and decent living conditions.

Most families in developing countries rely on agriculture to sustain them. The women in rural areas, as a consequence, must take part in the farming chores while maintaining and caring for their families. Women play critical roles in the rural economy as well as agricultural production although much of their work is under-reported due to the lack of disaggregated information. Much of the work they do may sometimes be considered "housework" when it is actually fundamental to agricultural production and development. The unpaid work of women on farms owned by the family is often underestimated as well as undervalued.

Some States that have adopted policies to bring about gender equity have failed to implement those policies. The result is that customs and cultural attitudes that perpetuate female stereotypes are allowed to go unchecked. When States do implement policies aimed at gender equity, many women, due to a lack of education and the resulting illiteracy, are unaware of the rights they do have and therefore do not claim those rights under the law.

In many countries, gender-based discrimination is the cause of rural women's inability to own or inherit land. Even when women are allowed to own or lease land, often times it is land that is difficult to farm and is far from points of distribution so that markets become almost inaccessible.

We believe that investment in rural women through education, training, better health facilities, and decent work and living conditions will reap benefits to all States which make these issues their priorities.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

Climate change, as we know, has brought about unprecedented natural disasters and is one of the most serious challenges faced by rural women who are already suffering due to extreme poverty. We must realize the important link between climate change and gender as well as the significant easing and adaptation to climate change that women can help bring about. The role of rural women as agents of change can be significant as they face the challenges of a greatly different future. They cannot, however, face these challenges if they are ill-prepared due to lack of education and accessibility to land, technology, and decent employment. The need for decent employment is a road to lifting rural women up from poverty that will only grow more desperate as agricultural pursuits become less and less likely to sustain their families.

Unfortunately, there is a pattern of inequality when it comes to decent employment. Much of this stems from cultural discrimination. Women are often given the most menial of jobs, many with poor working conditions that offer low pay and long hours. This does not lead to equality, but perpetuates discrimination.

Ultimately, the cultural barriers that keep rural women in poverty and that prevent their empowerment can be overcome through the education of girls and women. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) include the aim that equal opportunity must be given to both boys and girls at all stages of education. Educated girls become educated women who have greater competence, which results in healthier families and communities.

While the preceding only begins to scratch the surface of the problems facing rural women, we feel the need to bring the subject of violence against women into the dialogue. It is a consequence of inequality between the sexes. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon remarked, when launching his 2008 UNiTE to End violence Against Women campaign that, "...one out of every three women is likely to be beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused in her lifetime." We know that poverty and inadequate living conditions do much to aggravate the problem of violence against women. The problem is recognized to be more pervasive in developing countries where poverty levels are extreme. If we are to bring about the eradication of violence against women, an end to deprivation and poverty can help to speed that eradication.

Keeping in mind the above, our recommendations are as follows:

- In all states, it is crucial to implement CEDAW and the Beijing Platform of Action in order to improve the lives of rural women and to empower them economically. At the same time such implementation will help to reduce poverty and help to sustain development.
- In line with CEDAW, special attention should be paid to ensure that rural women participate in all spheres of their lives which should include the political aspects, especially where decision-making is concerned.
- All States should be urged to make provisions and policies that are gender-based and gender-sensitive. Education, training and awareness should be provided so that women may take full advantage of those policies and provisions. Training of government and justice workers should not be a footnote to such policies, but an important component as well.
- The implementation of equality-based laws should be of utmost importance to all States. It is of no value to have laws that allow transgressors impunity.
- All issues of gender-equality must be based on the assumption that women's rights are human rights. A human rights approach will allow rural women to enjoy the full range of human rights and will help to eliminate discrimination and violence against women.
- All States should make every effort to increase the accessibility of health-care facilities for rural women. The health-care facilities should include preventative care as well as palliative care.
- All States should be aware of the cost-benefits of educating girls and women. Educating girls and women is an investment in the future and can only bring about better conditions for families, communities and countries.

Statement Respectfully Submitted

Dianne Curtis

President, Zonta International

2010-2012 District 12 Board of Directors

Governor**Kathryn L. (Kay) Meyer**
kay@meyergould.net

Lt. Governor / OMC Chairman**Sheila Davis**
shedavis@comcast.net

Treasurer**Bridget L. Masters**
blm3416@digis.net

Secretary / Historian **Carol J. Leffler**
(appointed) cleffler@hollandhart.com

Parliamentarian / Bylaws..... **Renee L. Coppock**
(appointed) rcoppock@crowleyfleck.com

Area 1 Director**Jocelyn (Jo) Prang**
jprang@rushmore.com

Area 1 Vice Director..... **Denise (Dedi) LaRue**
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Area 2 Director**Mary Kirkpatrick Walker**
mkw1901@aol.com

Area 2 Vice Director.... **Deidre (Deedee) Boysen**
deedeeboysen@hotmail.com

Area 3 Director**Marcy O'Toole**
motoole48@comcast.net

Area 3 Vice Director..... **Debbie A. Squires**
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Area 4 Director **Laura Stamp**
laurazonta@msn.com

Area 4 Vice Director..... **Nancy Billings Gerlock**
n.gerlock@bresnan.net

2010-2012 District 12 Committee Chairmen

Centurion.....**Mary U. Benoit**
mary@mathiaslockandkey.com

External Communications / Public Relations
.....**Diane R. Twining**
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**Internal Communications / Database/Directory/
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Anita.Zastrow@sdbar.net

Legislative Awareness and Advocacy (LAA)
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Service / Scholarship(s) ..**Arlene Ekland-Earnst**
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United Nations (UN) Co-Chairman
.....**Mary Lou Edwards**
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United Nations (UN) Co-Chairman / ZIF Ambassador
.....**Nikki Headlee**
nheadlee@solucian.com

Webmaster**Susie Nulty**
nulty@csdco.com

ELECTED—

Nominating Committee Chairman / Past Governor
..... **Priscilla Young Romkema**
romkema@rushmore.com

Nominating Committee Member
..... **Kathryn (Kathy) Dean**
kdean@bakerlaw.com

Nominating Committee Member
..... **VACANT**

2011-2012 Club Presidents

Area 1

Billings	Nancy Curriden jolene@peakstoplains.com
Black Hills	Jan Kirch jankirch50@gmail.com jankirch@penntitle.com
Glendive	Janna McCormick mdufcu@midrivers.com
Pierre-Fort Pierre	Jane A. Page janep@pie.midco.net
Southern Black Hills	Cherry Luitjens songbird@goldenwest.net
Spearfish	Angie Leonard aleonard@regionalhealth.com
Sturgis Area	Linda M. Burnham lmb@dishmail.net

Area 2

Cheyenne	Ann Lucas empathica@hotmail.com alucas@firstedfcu.com
Converse County	Maureen S. Morgan momorgan@vcn.com
Fort Collins	Kris Johnson strongheart98@gmail.com
Laramie	Angela Gulino Ver Ploeg angela.verploeg@gmail.com angelaverploeg@his-corp.com

Area 3

Boulder County	Jan A. Stokes jstokescolorado@gmail.com
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Denver II	Janet (Jan) Hoyt jan.hoyt@anadarko.com
Douglas County	Judy Crenshaw judycrenshaw@hotmail.com
Foothills	Ann Louise Hodgson johnannhodgson@att.net
Boulder County	Kari A. Winter kari.winter@oracle.com
Lakewood-Golden	

Area 4

Pikes Peak Area	Sharon Roggy sroggy@comcast.net
Prowers County	Janet Adams jhawley72@yahoo.com
Royal Gorge	Janet Bergin janetbergin@gmail.com

Did You Know?!

- You can find the latest District 12 information on the "What's New" listing at http://zontadistrict12.org/d12_whatsnew.html.
- You can read and/or print the District 12 Directory at <http://zontadistrict12.org/>.
- You can update your Club's website information by contacting Susie Nulty at nulty@csdco.com.

Congratulations! 2012-14 District 12 Board

Governor	<i>Sheila Davis, Denver</i>
Lt. Governor	<i>Marcy O'Toole, Denver II</i>
Treasurer	<i>Bridget Masters, Fort Collins</i>
Area 1 Director	<i>Renee Coppock, Billings</i>
Vice Area 1 Director	<i>Teresa Forbes, Sturgis</i>
Area 2 Director	<i>Deedee Boysen, Laramie</i>
Vice Area 2 Director	<i>Michelle Ammerman, Cheyenne</i>
Area 3 Director	<i>Debbie Squires, Boulder County</i>
Vice Area 3 Director	<i>Laura McCutchen, Foothills Boulder County</i>
Area 4 Director	<i>Nancy Gerlock, Royal Gorge</i>
Vice Area 4 Director	<i>Linda Hawkins, Prowers County</i>
Nominating Committee—	
	<i>Nikki Headlee, Denver, Chair</i>
	<i>Sue Konstant, Spearfish</i>
	<i>Mary Walker, Cheyenne</i>



Zonta International District 12

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

Preliminary 2011-2012 District Calendar

gold-Districtwide blue-Board rose-Club & Area

2011	Activity	Time/Location/Notes
November 6	GovnrGram	Sent to D12 Board and Club Presidents
November 25	1 st Day of 16 Days of Activism for Elimination of VAW	
December 4	GovnrGram	Sent to D12 Board and Club Presidents
December 10	Human Rights Day AND final Day of 16 Days ...	
December 13	District Board Member Reports due to Governor	
December 19	Governor's Report due to ZI	
2012	Activity	Time/Location
January 1	GovnrGram	
January 7	District Board Conference Call	GoToMtg—Beside your telephone!
January 11	Amelia Earhart Day	Celebrate in your Club and community
February 5	GovnrGram	Sent to D12 Board and Club Presidents
March 4	GovnrGram	Sent to D12 Board and Club Presidents
March 8	Rose Day/International Women's Day	PR District-Wide Emphasis
March 24	Area 4 Meeting	Lamar, CO
March 31	Area 3 Meeting	Castle Rock, CO
April 1	GovnrGram	Sent to D12 Board and Club Presidents
April 14	Area 2 Meeting	Fort Collins, CO
April 21	Area 1 Meeting	Pierre, SD
May 6	GovnrGram	Sent to D12 Board and Club Presidents
May 14	Annual Club Reports due to ADs and Governor	Must meet deadline
May 14	District Board Member Reports due to Governor	Must meet deadline
May 28	Governor's Report due to ZI	
June 1	Deadline for Membership Dues to ZI	
June 3	GovnrGram	Sent to D12 Board and Club Presidents
June 8-10	Transitional District Board Meeting	Estes Park, CO
July 7-12	Zonta International Convention	Torino, ITALY
September 21-23	Governor's Seminar	Denver, CO



Zonta International District 12

Advancing the Status of Women Worldwide

SAY NO – UNITE
End Violence against Women

